Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Speaking for the Medical Department I wish to point out that the menials there are not worse off than the menials of other departments. Comparatively they are getting more pay. So they are in a better position than the menials in other departments. It is the policy of the Government to revise the grades of pay of the staff including menials of the Medical Department when normal conditions are restored.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* I press this motion in the name of humanity. I am doing it because the Secretary has been pleased to say that these menials of the Medical Department are better off. We must also take into account the work they were asked to do and the hours of attendence. So I press the motion. I therefore appeal this house to support me in opposing this motion.

Cut motion put and carried.

Demand minus Re. 1. put and carried.

28. 24—Medical—1.—Medical Proper—1.—Dearness Allowance

29. 24—Medical—1.—Medical Proper—1.—Local allowance

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Sir, I rise to move the next two additional allotments which relate to the same subject. Dearness allowance, Rs. 2,582 and 126 local allowance under the same head. I request the House kindly to sanction them.

Demands put and carried.

30. "Labour"

Mr. C. J. Mathw *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Sir, I rise to move an additional allotment of Rs. 9,888 under "Labour". Though Labour Legislation in the State has kept pace with similar Legislation in British India, there was till now no co-ordinated machinery to deal with Labour problems. It is also necessary that increased attention should be paid to problems connected with Labour. The Director of Industries and Commerce who was till recently functioning as Labour Commissioner, has sufficient work connected with his duties as Director of Industries and Commerce. Therefore the post of a full time Labour Commissioner has been created with effect from the 24th Chingam 1121. The total estimate of expenditure for the new Labour Department for 1121 under Establishments allowances and contingencies comes to Rs. 12,691 of which the expenditure under votable items comes to Rs. 9888. The above expenditure could not be anticipated when the current year's budget was framed; hence the necessity for an additional allotment of Rs. 9,888 under the Labour Department.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Can I have from the Hon'ble Joint Secretary some information with regard to the Labour Department, its working, and how to propose to tackle the problem? I had sent a cut motion unfortunately it was disallowed. By way of information can I have it?

Mr. Deputy President : The Hon'ble Member wants some information regarding the Labour Department so that we may understand for what we are sanctioning this amount.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* We are in dark, Sir, please throw some light upon it.

Mr. Deputy President : What is the specific point of information the Hon'ble Member wants?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Nature of the working of the Labour Department.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* May I know the duties of the Labour Commissioner have been defined?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is it want of incapacity to give or unwillingness to give or the consequences of giving it out?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The Labour Department will administer Labour laws and also look into the welfare of the labourers employed in the various factories.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Who are the Members of his establishment?

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